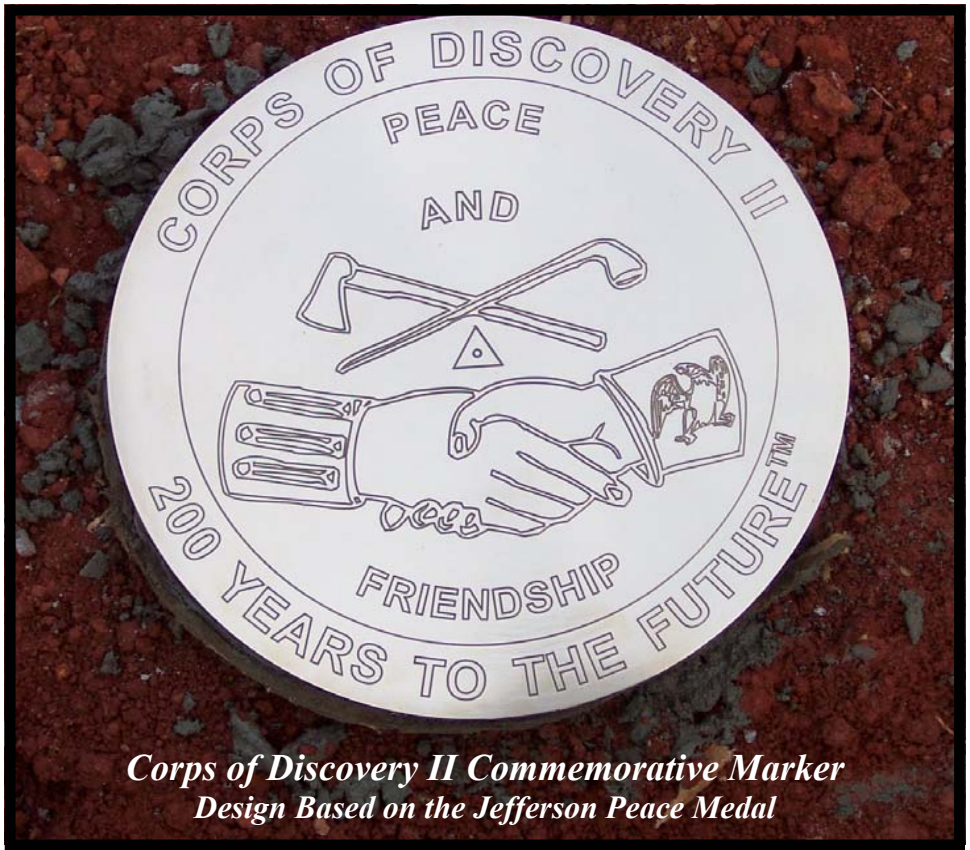


Corps of Discovery II Commemorative Marker
Design Based on the Jefferson Peace Medal

NGS - National Geodetic Survey

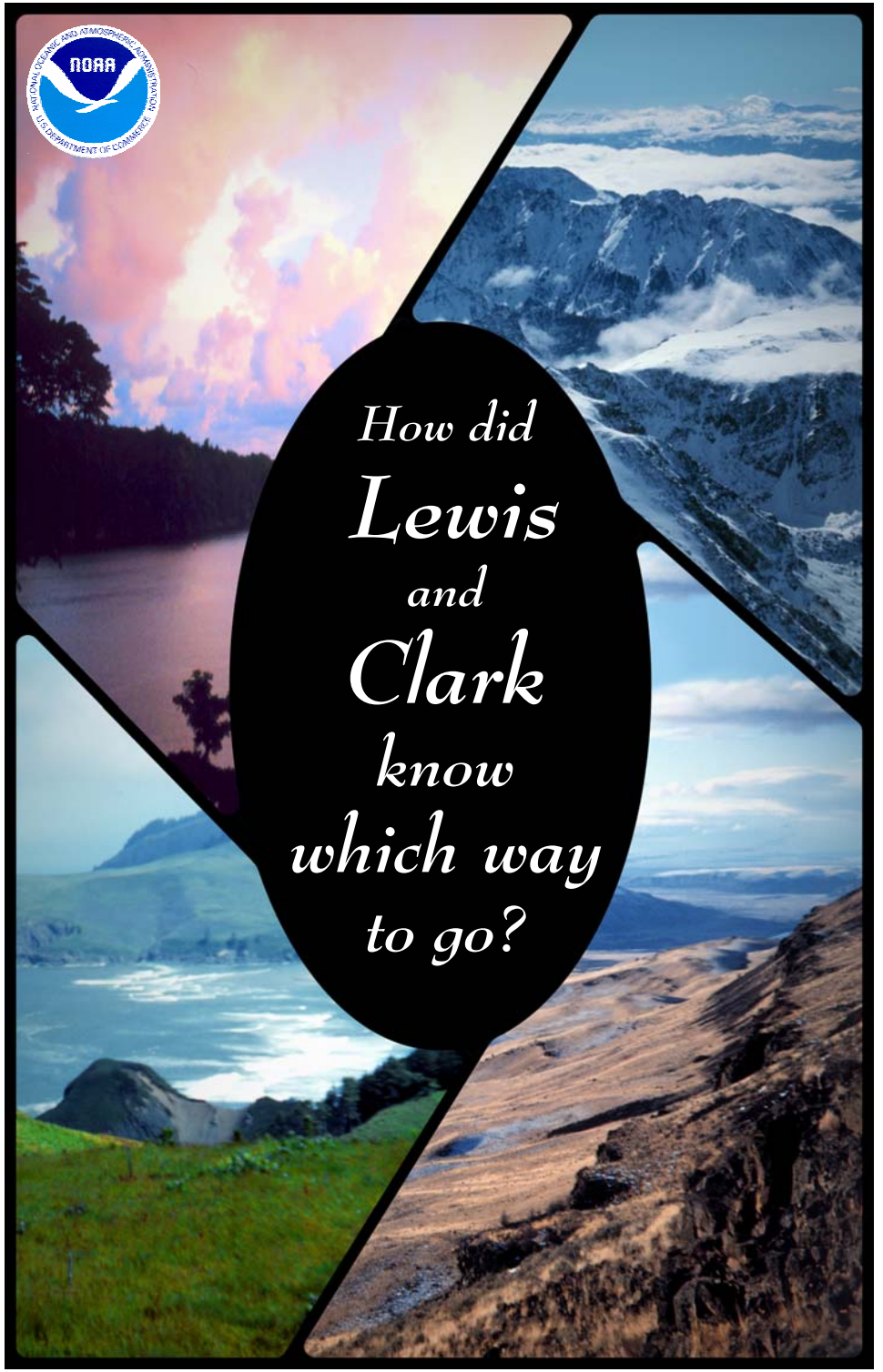
A mission of the National Geodetic Survey (NGS) is to define and manage a system of geographic reference points. This system, called the National Spatial Reference System, contributes to better public safety, economic prosperity, and environmental well being.

NOAA - National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

NOAA is dedicated to predicting and protecting the environment. NOAA's overall mission is two-fold: (1) environmental assessment and prediction--to observe and assess the state of our environment, while protecting public safety and the Nation's economic and environmental security through accurate forecasting; and (2) environmental stewardship--protect ocean, coastal and living marine resources while assisting their economic development.

For more information, contact:
NGS Information Services • 301-713-3242
www.ngs.noaa.gov

U.S. Department of Commerce • National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration



No maps. No charts. No GPS.

Equipped with only a few basic surveying tools, Lewis and Clark literally measured their way across unknown territory. Beginning at Wood River, Illinois, in 1804, Lewis and Clark spent the next two years traveling through what is now Missouri, Kansas, Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota, North Dakota, Montana, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington. They reached the Pacific Ocean in 1805 and traveled back in 1806. Today, the Corps of Discovery II is retracing Lewis and Clark's steps. But this time, thanks to organizations like NOAA's National Geodetic Survey (NGS), they know where they are going before they get there.

From 2003-2006, NGS will celebrate Lewis and Clark's contributions to surveying with a series of commemorative markers. The design of the marker is based on the Jefferson Peace Medal, a memento that Lewis and Clark presented to American Indian leaders. Set at sites along the Corps of Discovery II route, each of these markers can be located with the Global Positioning System and used as reference points. The first marker was set at Monticello in January 2003; markers will also be placed at other signature sites along the route.

These markers join over a million reference points, constructing the Nation's geodetic reference framework. A vital part of infrastructure, this framework provides a foundation for commerce and safe navigation.

JEFFERSON: THE BEGINNING

Thomas Jefferson, a surveyor, had a vision for a clear delineation of the United States coastline to reduce shipwrecks while expanding commerce and industry. On February 10, 1807, Congress passed an act authorizing Thomas Jefferson to establish an organization to survey the coasts of the United States.

SURVEY OF THE COAST IS BORN

Jefferson created a new bureau called the Survey of the Coast, which was directed by the U.S. Treasury Department. In 1878 the agency was reorganized and named the Coast and Geodetic Survey (C&GS). The agency focused on surveying the Nation and its coasts.

NATIONAL GEODETIC SURVEY EVOLVES

In 1970, a federal reorganization created the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Under the umbrella of NOAA, part of C&GS became the National Geodetic Survey. Through time, NGS employees have literally walked from coast to coast, taking vertical and horizontal geodetic surveying measurements. In this fashion, more than a million reference points have been logged to construct the National Spatial Reference System, which serves as the Nation's geodetic reference framework for latitude, longitude, and elevation. This system provides the foundation for transportation and communication systems, boundary and property surveys, land record systems, mapping and charting, and a multitude of scientific and engineering applications.

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